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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHARLTON KINGS

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1958

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHARLTON KINGS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Charlton Kings Urban Distridt Council.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the environmental hygiene and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District.

Mr.W.L.Booy, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, contributes the section dealing with the Sanitary Inspection of the District and the Council's Refuse Collection Service.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population 6,820, is an increase of 110 persons over the previous year. The number of births show a considerable increase, being 130 as compared with 93 last year. The first time for many years the Birth Rate, 19, is higher than the corresponding fate for the county (17.11) and the country as a whole (16.4).

Ninety eight people died during the year, nine more than in 1957, making the Death Rate 14.3 which is higher than the national rate (11.7). There were three deaths of infants under one year of age, the infantile mortality rate being 23. - on a par with the rate for England and Wales (22.5).

Thus the health statistics are favourable and the Urban District was free from outbreaks of serious infectious disease.

I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration and to my colleagues for their support and co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1959.

CHARLTON KINGS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	3,399
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	...	6,820
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1958)	...	2,336
Rateable Value (at 31.3.59)	...	£92,432
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£ 366

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	124	70	54
Illegitimate	6	2	4
Total	130	72	58

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	19.07
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	1.04
Corrected Birth Rate (19.07 x 1.04)	19.83

STILL BIRTHS			
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	1	1

Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	15.1
Still-births rate per 1,000 population	.29
TOTAL live and still-births ...	132

INFANT DEATHS
(Deaths of infants under one year of age)

Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	3	2	1

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	- total ...	23.07
" " " " " " "	- legitimate	24.1
" " " " " " "	- illegitimate	-
Neo Natal " " " " " " (first four weeks)	...	15.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births..		4.6%

MATERNAL deaths (including abortion)	NIL
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil

DEATHS	98	45	53

Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.3
Area Comparability Factor(deaths)	0.91
Corrected Death Rate (14.3 x 0.91)	13.013

CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification :-

		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	1	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	2	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14.	other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	6
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16.	Diabetes	-	1
17,	Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	11
18.	Coronary disease, angina	14	9
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
20.	Other heart disease	6	12
21.	Other circulatory diseases	3	3
22.	Influenza	2	-
23.	Pneumonia	1	1
24.	Bronchitis	3	-
25.	Other disease of the respiratory system	-	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	1	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	4
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
34.	All other accidents	-	1
35.	Suicide	2	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	Total ...	45	53

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.8	11.7	13.4	13.9	19.07
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.6	12.3	13.6	13.3	14.3
Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year) (per 1,000 live births)	13.0	14.0	Nil	Nil	23.07
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month - per 1,000 live births)	13.0	14.0	Nil	Nil	15.3

FOR COMPARISON, THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES etc. ARE GIVEN BELOW

	England & Wales	County of Glos.	Charlton Kings U.D.
Live Births (per 1,000 population)	16.4	17.11	19.07
Still Births (per 1,000 total - live and still-births)	21.6	20.26	15.1
Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year) (per 1,000 live births)	22.6	19.8	23.07
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month) (per 1,000 live births)	16.2	14.04	15.3
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.7	10.93	14.3

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PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1958 (Excluding Tuberculosis)

	Under 1 year		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 - 24		25 & over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Poliomyelitis												
Paralytic							1				1	
Non-paralytic											-	-
Measles	-	1	2	4	2	1	-	-	-	1	4	7
Diphtheria											-	-
Dysentery											-	-
Meningococcal infection											-	-

	Under 5 years		5 - 14		15 - 44		45 - 64		65 & over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	2
Encephalitis											-	-
Erysipelas											-	-
Puerperal pyrexia						2						2

Scarlet Fever

Only two cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, the incidence of this disease being exceptionally light.

Whooping Cough

Three notifications of whooping cough were received during the year.

Sixty children were vaccinated against whooping cough, either at the Child Welfare Centre or by their own doctors.

Poliomyelitis

One case of paralytic poliomyelitis occurred. The scope of vaccination against poliomyelitis was extended in accordance with the national programme and offered to young persons born in the years 1933 to 1942. It is pleasing to note that Gloucestershire had an acceptance rate of 67% compared with 55% for the country.

Measles

Only seven cases were notified as against ninety seven the previous year.

Diphtheria

No cases were notified. The district has been free from diphtheria since 1944.

(a) FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected) as Returned to Registrar General

1st. Quarter	2nd. Quarter	3rd. Quarter	4th. Quarter	Total
-	-	-	4	4

(b) CASES OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED Nil

(c) SYMPTOMLESS EXCRETERS Nil

(d) FATAL CASES Nil

AGENT	No. of outbreaks		No. of Cases		Total No. of Cases
	Family outbreaks	Other outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise ascertained	
Agent not identified	1	-	4	-	4

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation between 1st. January 1944 and 31st. December 1958 :-

Age at 31.12.58: i.e. born in year	Under 1 yr. 1958	1 /57	2 /56	3 /55	4 /54	5 - 9 1953/1949	10 - 14 1948/1944
Number immunised:	7	66	89	59	56	295	340
TOTAL number immunised:			912				

Number of children immunised in :	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Primary	60	130	57	56	53	60
Maintenance	38	125	50	88	77	53

Only 60 children were immunised against diphtheria as compared with 130 in the previous year. This decrease is due to the exceptional effort being made in respect of the scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis.

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VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year:

	Under 1 year	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 +	Total
Vaccination	46	5	2	-	4	57
Re-vaccination				2	6	8

Proportion of children vaccinated under 1 year of age expressed as a percentage of the estimated number of births during the year :-

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
28%	37%	35%	43%	41%	36%

Fifty seven people were vaccinated against smallpox and of these fortysix were babies under one year of age.

There has been no falling off in the proportion of children being vaccinated against smallpox.

VACCINATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination:	17				17
Combined Diphtheria/Whooping Cough Prophylaxis (obtained by and given by General Practitioners)	40	3			43

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TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

	Children 0 - 4	Children 5 - 14	All Persons
Respiratory	1	-	3
Meninges & C.N.S.	-	-	-
Other Forms	-	-	-

Deaths

	All Persons
Respiratory	-
Meninges & C.N.S.	-
Other Forms	1

Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register, 31st. December, 1958, was as follows :-

Respiratory Male	Respiratory Female	Respiratory Total	C.N.S.		Other Forms Male	Other Forms Female	Other Forms Total	TOTAL
16	17	33	-	-	3	2	5	38

Three new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified and there was one death.

B.C.G. Vaccination is offered to 13 year old school children. More and more parents are arranging for their children to be protected at a time of life when the adolescent is particularly susceptible.

The Council have played their part in rehousing the patient's family. Mass Radiography is available and everyone should make use of this facility for a chest X-Ray.

It is considered that if full use is made of the preventive measures, tuberculosis will be eliminated.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - CLEAN FOOD

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are in force for securing hygienic methods in the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in the open air.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that the food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948
Section 47 : Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951
Section 1.

These Acts give the local authority powers for the compulsory removal of aged or sick people in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. The compulsory powers were not used during the year but a number of old people living alone and in failing health have been visited from time to time. A little regular help often enables them to carry on living in their own homes and prevents insanitary conditions arising. This assistance is usually given by the Home Help Service.

The Old People's Welfare Committee is maintaining a register of old people living alone in the area.

The Old People's Clubs are most useful; they look after their members and report instances in which help is required.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Samples taken under the Public Health Acts, and Pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford. The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health and no charge is made for making use of its services.

Chemical examination of specimens is undertaken by Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This Service is organised by the County Council, and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness.

As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage the household duties because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, Coumcil Offices, Charlton Kings : telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the Health Committee of the County Council.

Information is available from the Divisional Health Office, Charlton Kings.

The District Nurse is - Nurse M.V.Clifford,
"Bermarlee",
Little Herbert's Rd.,
Charlton Kings.
Telephone number - Cheltenham 52523.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

Meetings of the Charlton Kings Child Welfare Centre are held in the Holy Apostles Hall, London Road, every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Urban District Council is within the statutory water supply area of the Cheltenham Corporation Water Undertaking.

The supply was satisfactory throughout the year both in respect of quality and quantity.

During the year sixty two houses were connected to the public water mains, comprising sixty new houses and two existing houses.

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REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

W.L.BOOY

HOUSING

a) Summary

1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be in some respect unfit for human habitation	16
2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority of their officers ...	16
3) The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to :-	
a) the serving of Notices requiring the execution of works ...	0
b) the making of demolition or closing orders ...	1
4) the number of Notices served requiring the execution of works ...	3
5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notice ...	0
6) The number of demolition or closing orders made	0
7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 11,Housing Act 1936 and Housing Act 1954. ...	1
8) The number of houses demolished ...	2

b) Improvement Grants

The Council's scheme was suspended in November 1957 due to the sharp rise in interest rates at that time. In December 1958, however, the Council re-introduced the scheme and a few applications were dealt with before the end of the year.

The total number of Grants made up to the end of 1958 was forty.

c) Rent Control

The statistics concerning Certificates of Disrepair were as follows :-

Number of applications received ...	4
Number of decisions not to issue certificates ...	1
Number of decisions to issue certificates ...	3

REHOUSING

The Council did not build any more dwellings during the year. A thorough examination of the housing list showed that there were few "hardship cases" remaining. In view of the changed financial basis of housing i.e. considerable reduction in exchequer subsidy, the Council felt that it was not opportune to embark on further schemes.

As suitable houses became more readily available for purchase in the area so the number of vacations increased. These vacations assisted the Council in finding accommodation for those applicants on the list in most urgent need.

BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

The number of houses completed during the year was 37, compared with 144 the previous year. This fall was due entirely to the completion of the development on two large estates. One other estate was commenced but development was not sufficiently advanced to affect the year's figures.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No major fault in the sewerage system occurred during the year, although a number of repair works had to be carried out. These works were necessitated mainly because of tree root damage.

REFUSE COLLECTION and DISPOSAL

The collection arrangements introduced some three years ago continued to function satisfactorily. Despite the rapid increase in the number of bins, due to recent development it proved possible to manage without increasing either the staff or the number of vehicles.

The refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping in a disused sand-pit. Hired mechanical plant was drawn in at regular intervals to ensure an adequate amount of covering material, to satisfy the Ministry's recommendations. Liberal use of D.D.T.powder effectively controlled insect pests. Rat infestation was negligible.

FOOD PREMISES and FOOD HYGIENE

The number of food premises in the area remained more or less static at 45, mainly made up by shops and public houses.

It was not possible to visit all the premises on the register, but all those were visited where notices had been previously served under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Acts were :-

Registered for the sale of ice-cream ...	16
Registered for the manufacture of sausages, preserved foods etc..	2

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MILK SUPPLIES

The position relating to milk supplies remained much the same as for previous years. There are now no registered dairies in the area, all the milk being supplied by distributors operating from premises in adjoining districts.

Nineteen licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

The number of factories on the register for the year was twenty two, comprising almost entirely small concerns employing only one or two workers.

The majority were visited during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council's scheme introduced in April 1951 under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, continued to operate successfully.

The following is a summary of the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture for the period April 1958 to March 1959 :-

No. of properties inspected :-

(a)	Upon complaint	...	75
(b)	By survey	...	592

No. of properties found to be infested :-

(a)	By rats	...	50
(b)	By mice	...	39

Routine sewer treatments were particularly successful showing a continuing drop in the level of infestation in the sewers.

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